

Governor's Upper Yellowstone River Task Force
Meeting Summary
December 13, 2001
Yellowstone Inn
Meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

I. Introduction

Members Present:

John Bailey, Chair
 Roy Aserlind
 Andy Dana
 Dave Haug, Vice Chair

Doug Ensign
 Michelle Goodwine
 Jerry O'Hair
 Brant Oswald

Rod Siring
 Bob Wiltshire
 Ellen Woodbury
 Jim Woodhull

Others Present:

Laurence Siroky, DNRC Ex-Officio
 Allan Steinle, Corps Ex-Officio
 Liz Galli-Noble, Coordinator
 Amy Miller, Administrative Secretary

John Remus
 Lionel Dicharry
 Daryl Stutterheim
 Susan Higgins
 Karl Biastoch
 Lawrence Stephenson
 Jeanne Souvigney
 Pete Story

Eric Morrison
 Myla McGowan
 Tim Bryggman
 Jim Robinson
 Ed Harvey
 Rodney Schwartz
 Chuck Dalby

Duncan Patten, TAC Chair
 Tom Hallin, TAC

II. Prior Meeting Minutes

The November 13, 2001 minutes were approved as written.

III. Financial Updates

1. Grant Spending Report:

Amy Miller reported the following financial updates to the Task Force:

<i>EXPENDED GRANTS</i>			
Grant Name	Completed	Amount	Study Component
DNRC Watershed Planning Assistance Grant	6/30/99	2,100.00	Physical Features Inventory
DNRC HB223 Grant	7/30/99	10,000.00	Aerial photography
DNRC Riparian/Wetlands Educational Grant	6/30/00	960.99	<i>Hydrologic Response to the 1988 Fires</i> Workshop
DEQ 319 Grant (1 st)	9/30/00	40,000.00	Coordinator position
DNRC Watershed Planning Assistance Grant	1/31/01	10,000.00	Watershed Land Use Study
DEQ Start-Up Grant	6/26/01	49,138.00	Coordinator position, Admin Secretary, additional cross-sections, operating expenses.
DNRC HB223	10/1/01	6,500.00	Riparian Trend Analysis
BLM Funding	10/26/01	10,000.00	Wildlife Study
<i>CURRENT GRANTS</i>			
Grant Name	Amount	Spent	Remaining Balance
DNRC RDGP Grant (expires 12/31/02)	299,940.00	236,131.11	63,808.89
DEQ 319 Grant (2 nd) (expires 8/31/02)	58,000.00	41,860.14	16,139.86
DEQ 319 Grant (3 rd) (expires 6/20/03)	44,000.00	0	44,000.00

Liz Galli-Noble reported that she attended the 319 Grant hearing on December 3, 2001 in Helena. This hearing

was in defense of the fourth Task Force 319 Grant application. Liz reported that the hearing went very well and thanked the Park Conservation District for their support.

Liz also reported that with John Bailey's approval she applied for two *EPA Consolidated Funding Process* grants on November 30, 2001. The grants were for: (1) Geomorphology for \$30,000, and (2) Project Final Phase: Coordinator/Outreach & Education for \$75,000.

IV. Socio-Economic Assessment (Phase I)

1. Socio-Economic Subcommittee Update

Ellen Woodbury reported on the following Socio-Economic Subcommittee activities and recommendations to the full Task Force:

Summary

The Socio-Economic Subcommittee is generally in agreement with the Corps for Phase I of the Socio-Economic Assessment. BBC has contracted to do specific tasks that will provide baseline socio-economic data for the Task Force. Unfortunately, there is still confusion regarding the roles and responsibilities of different agencies including the role of the Task Force in the SAMP process.

Subcommittee Recommendations

(1) The Task Force needs to define:

How, or even if, the Task Force is willing to participate in the development of the SAMP.

Where the Task Force's responsibilities end.

At what point does the Corps take over the process? And, will the Task Force even exist at that time?

(2) The Socio-Economic Subcommittee is recommending that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) be developed to clarify these roles, products, timelines, and responsibilities.

(3) The recommendation is that the Socio-Economic Subcommittee evolve to help clarify issues and define roles with the Corps. The new subcommittee could then present the MOU and other recommendations to the Task Force for approval.

(4) The Socio-Economic Subcommittee suggests that the local, state, and federal agency representatives, as well as at least one or possibly two non-governmental Task Force members, be on this new subcommittee. For example:

Dave Haug - Park Conservation District

Ellen Woodbury - Park County

Jim Woodhull - City of Livingston

Jim Robinson - Montana DNRC

Ken Britton/Terri Marceron - US Forest Service

Mike Gilbert/Allan Steinle - Corps

Others (?)

(5) The Socio-Economic Subcommittee also recommends that the Corps do a presentation on the SAMP process to the full Task Force as soon as possible. Possibly in February or March 2002.

A short discussion followed Ellen's presentation. John Bailey commented that having the Socio-Economic Subcommittee evolve to take on these new issues seemed to be a much better idea, than to create a completely new subcommittee. Members of the Socio-Economic Subcommittee agreed to participate in the new group, with Liz Galli-Noble explaining that Terri Marceron would be willing to assist in the effort, but that Ken Britton

(Gardiner District Ranger) would be the formal US Forest Service contact.

Bob Wiltshire made a motion to “expand the Socio-Economic Subcommittee as proposed, and to draft an MOU for Task Force review.”

Dave Haug seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Task Force members interested in joining this new subcommittee were encouraged to do so; Andy Dana agreed to join the group, but could only do so by phone.

The Task Force also agreed that the Corps should make a “SAMP—Partner Roles and Responsibilities” presentation to the Task Force as soon as that presentation fits into each group’s schedule. Mike Gilbert and Liz will get together and work the details out.

2. Socio-Economic Assessment Presentation

Ellen Woodbury introduced Ed Harvey, the Socio-Economic Assessment team leader. Ed Harvey of BBC Consulting in Denver had been asked to come and do an introductory study presentation to the Task Force. The following is an outline of his presentation.

Socio-Economic Presentation Outline:

1. Agenda and Your Likely Interest Scale
2. Who is BBC?
3. BBC Project Team
4. Long Road to Work Plan Agreement
5. What Phase I Will Accomplish
6. Summary of Task Objectives and Methods
7. Task Relationships
8. Phase I Public Participation Plan
9. Phase I Completion Schedule
10. Now It’s Your Turn

After briefly describing the Socio-Economic Assessment, Ed then asked the Task Force members to share a little about themselves (#10 above). He asked each member to address the following items:

- A. Name and constituency you represent.
- B. Your constituency’s past and current connection to the Yellowstone River.
- C. Your constituency’s future aspirations for the Yellowstone River.
- D. What is threatening that future aspiration for the River’s future?
- E. Data sources outside the Task Force work you would suggest we obtain.

Ed Harvey concluded his presentation by saying that he and his staff have “no agendas,” “no axes to grind,” “no stake in the outcome,” when it comes to the Socio-Economic study. They simply will be gathering baseline data and presenting those findings to the Task Force.

It was decided that the first of two Socio-Economic Public Meetings would be held on **Monday, February 25, 2002 at 7:00 pm at the Yellowstone Inn**. Task Force members and the public were asked to help get the word out and to tell members of the community to plan on attending.

V. Outreach and Education Activities Updates

1. Website Establishment

The Website Subcommittee provided an update on their progress since the November Task Force meeting, as

follows:

Background

Information about the possible establishment of a Task Force web site was presented at the November 13, 2001 Task Force meeting. The Task Force felt that it is important to have an informational web site, although they wanted to explore other options beyond those presented at the meeting.

A Website Subcommittee was appointed— John Bailey, Bob Wiltshire, and Liz Galli-Noble—to further investigate website design, costs, location, content, and unique domain name. The subcommittee was asked to report back to the Task Force at the December 13 Task Force meeting.

Website Subcommittee's Report

Web Space

The DNRC-Water Management Bureau (Jim Robinson, contact) is willing to sponsor a web site for the Task Force. The Department of Administration administers web space for Montana state agencies, and they have generously offered to give the Task Force web space free-of-charge. We plan to secure 100 Mega bits of disk space through these sources.

Web Site Design & Management

The DNRC has also offered to assist the Task Force with web site design and management. Devri Roubidoux (DNRC Web Site Specialist) will meet with the subcommittee to discuss our needs and vision, provide technical assistance to help design the site, and provide periodic assistance with web site maintenance/management. The site will be designed so that the Task Force coordinator can make routine changes and updates as needed.

Domain Name

John Bailey is prepared to secure a unique domain name for the Task Force site, the one suggested by the subcommittee is: **upperyellowstonerivertaskforce.org**

2001 Annual Report

Should the website be mentioned in the *2001 Annual Report*? Liz could add a short paragraph stating that the site will be up and running by early 2002. Annual reports will be mailed to the public in mid to late January.

Task Force Approval

We need full Task Force approval to proceed with securing a domain name, and web site design and establishment.

The Task Force gave the Website Subcommittee approval to proceed with the recommendations outlined in their report. The website domain name (upperyellowstonerivertaskforce.org) was approved, although great care should be taken to ensure that hits will result with simpler words such as “Yellowstone,” “Yellowstone River,” “task force,” etc.

2. Digital Projector Purchase

Liz Galli-Noble explained that the Park Conservation District will be purchasing a digital projector by January 2002 for outreach and education activities. Given the cost of the unit (\$2,500), several groups will be pitching-in to share the expense, and the Task Force is being asked to contribute.

Groups Purchasing the Projector

Park Conservation District	500+
Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks	500
Upper Shields Watershed Association	500
Southern Crazy Mountain Watershed	500
Task Force	<u>500</u>
	\$2,500

Cost

Proxima Ultralight LX Multimedia Projector	2,295
Carrying Case & Miscellaneous Items	<u>205</u>
	\$2,500

Task Force Use—Over the past two years, the Task Force coordinator has used a digital projector for public outreach and education activities on an average of one to two times per month. In addition, the Task Force uses a digital projector at about half of our monthly Task Force meetings. Given that the Task Force is entering our most intense outreach and education project stage, the need for a digital projector is only going to increase in 2002 and 2003. The Task Force will likely be using the projector much more than any of the other groups involved with this projector purchase.

In the past, we have been able to borrow projectors from the Bozeman NRCS State Office, if we book them in advance. Unfortunately, on several recent occasions all of the NRCS projectors have been unavailable for Task Force use, due to the agency's internal demands. Digital projectors are not available through any rental services in Bozeman or Livingston as a back-up for these occasions.

For all of these reasons, the coordinator highly recommended that the Task Force help to purchase this much-needed equipment.

Bob Wiltshire made the motion to “fund the purchase of a digital projector at \$500.00.”

Michelle Goodwine seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Coordinator Activities

Liz Galli-Noble reported that she attended the Yellowstone River Conservation District Council RAC meeting on December 5th in Billings.

VI. 2001 Annual Report – Draft #2

Liz Galli-Noble sent copies of the second draft of the *2001 Annual Report* to the Task Force members on December 7th, and requested that they review the document and bring comments to this meeting.

The group then went page-by-page through the 2nd and final draft report and made several edits. The edited report was then approved for release by the Task Force members. Authority was given to Liz and John Bailey to make minor, last minute changes, if needed.

A budget summary was distributed to the Task Force for review (see *Attachment A*). Bob Wiltshire commented that the color map cost was a third of the report, which seems excessive. Other Task Force members felt that the map was necessary to show the public how much work has been accomplished.

Michelle Goodwine made a motion to “approve the budget as proposed” (in *Attachment A*).

Ellen Woodbury seconded the motion. The motion carried with all Task Force members in support except Bob Wiltshire who remained opposed.

Note: Consensus is not required for business or monetary decisions; those decisions may be made by a voice vote of a majority of the Task Force.

VII. Schedule Next Task Force Meeting

The next Task Force meetings are scheduled for:

Task Force Meeting: Thursday, January 17, 2002 at the Yellowstone Inn.

Socio-Economic Public Meeting: Monday, February 25, 2002 at the Yellowstone Inn.

Task Force Meeting: Tuesday, February 26, 2002 at the Yellowstone Inn.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Attachment A. 2001 Annual Report

Time line:

December 13, 2001	Task Force meeting, final edits
December 28, 2001	Annual Report goes to printers
January 7 - 11, 2002	Annual Report mailed to Governor Martz
January 17, 2002	Task Force meeting, distribute reports to Task Force members

Lay Out:

Very similar to last year=s annual report

Number of copies	600 (should be enough given future access to web site)
Number of pages	50 - 60
Binding	Booklet style & stapled
Cover	Black and white, map or photo

Budget:

Pages	30 pages (11x17) x 600 copies = 18,000 pages = \$1,080
Booklet Binding	600 copies, folded, stapled, trimmed = \$96
White Cover	600 copies, front and back cover = \$114
Color Map	600 color map inserts, 11x17 = \$630
Miscellaneous	<u>\$50</u>

2001 Estimated Total Budget \$1,970

2000 Total Budget \$1,998
